

A3
said length-adjustable end cap includes an annular stationary ring member and a moveable connection member slideably received within said annular stationary ring member so as to be moveable longitudinally relative thereto, and wherein one of said stationary ring member and said moveable connection member includes a pair of cross-supports.

Please cancel claim 2.

A4
4. (Amended) The filter cartridge of claim 3, wherein said length-adjustable end cap includes an annular base member attached to an end of the cylindrical filter body, and wherein said stationary ring member is generally cylindrical and protrudes upwardly from said annular base member.

A5
14. (Amended) The filter cartridge of claim 3, wherein said stationary ring member includes a seal ring in slideable sealing contact with said neck portion of said moveable connection member.

A6
22. (Amended) A filter cartridge comprising:
a filter body which defines a generally cylindrical interior space;
a length-adjustable top end cap attached to an upper end of said filter body and defines an opening to allow fluid-communication with said interior space of said filter body;
a bottom end attached to a lower end of said filter body so as to close said interior space thereat; wherein
said length-adjustable top end cap includes:
(i) an annular base member attached to said filter body;
(ii) a generally cylindrical stationary ring member integrally joined at one end to, and extending upwardly from, said annular base member;
(iii) a moveable member having a generally transverse annular support flange,

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- (iv) a cylindrical neck member integrally depending from said support flange, and
 - (v) a series of radially extending buttresses joined to said stationary ring member and said annular base member, wherein
 - (vi) said neck member is slideably received within said stationary ring member so as to move the support flange towards and away from said filter body and thereby establish respective lesser and greater axial dimensions of said filter cartridge.
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Please cancel claims 25 and 31.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are requested.

The specification has been amended so as to conform the reference numerals in the paragraph on page 6, lines 19-26 to those shown in FIGURE 3. In addition, the typographical error in that same paragraph helpfully identified by the Examiner has been corrected. The U.S. patent status of the application cited on page 12 has been updated. As such, it is believed that the disclosure and drawing objections noted in paragraphs 1 and 3-5 of the subject Official Action have been mooted.³

A new Abstract has been proposed in Appendix III as a separate last page hereto. The proposed Abstract is believed to comply in all respects with MPEP §608.01(b).

Claim 22 has been amended so as to include therein the subject matter of claim 25. As such claim 25 has been cancelled as redundant. Hence, claims 22-24 and 26-

³ Since no error was in fact present in original FIGURE 3, but instead appeared in the paragraph on page 6 of the specification, no proposed drawing revision is needed and hence none is submitted herewith. Therefore, no issue of abandonment should arise by virtue of this lack of proposed drawing revision as stated in paragraph 5 of the Official Action.